

Recycling and Refuse Management Committee
Minutes from 7/07/10 meeting, 5:00 pm

Present: Susan Waite, DPW Liaison; Sterling Bush, Marianne Lorenzelli, Greg Keochakian, John Root

Susan Waite found a 1989 Town Meeting (TM) article suggesting that Amherst become a “(Styro) Foam-Free” Zone with regards to food packaging. While TM supported the general intent of the article, the issue was referred to the Select Board for further research. Select Board archives need to be searched for follow-up action (if any exists).

Discussion ensued and a consensus was that the positive aspects of discontinuing the use of Expanded Polystyrene (EPS), commonly-and mistakenly-referred to as Styrofoam®, serving pieces by area merchants needed to be stressed in order to effect a positive change. Opposition to any ban regarding the use of EPS is being anticipated.

Tony Maroulis of the Amherst Chamber of Commerce has suggested creating an EPS ‘buying consortium’ in an effort to make a voluntary ban more affordable according to Susan Waite.

Further discussion resulted in a Committee decision not to pursue a ban at this time and the need to appear on the Town Meeting fall warrant was abated.

John Root moved to delay seeking a spot on the fall 2010 warrant while planning to revisit the topic at the February meeting of the RRMC in 2011. The motion was unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned 5:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Greg Keochakian